



417th Base Support Battalion

S A F E T Y B U L L E T I N

TRAFFIC SAFETY – COPING WITH THE “FOG SEASON”

More than 40 % of fatal auto-related accidents to pedestrians occur between October and December, so while drivers should take added caution, pedestrians, too, should take extra care when crossing streets and wear light colored clothing.

Motorists must clean their windshield properly so they can see pedestrians, bicycle riders, and other motorists. Use extra care at night and in low light conditions.

Here are some key recommendations from the Automobile Clubs:

- ** Pay attention to the traffic coming to you. If oncoming cars and trucks have their lights on during daytime when the roads are dry, chances are they’ve been reckoning with fog and your turn may be next.**
- ** Turn on headlights (use low beams) and switch on the fog lamps if your car is so equipped. But use fog lights only when vision is less than 150 feet (50 meters), German law requires a speed of 50 km/h (31 mph) not be exceeded.**
- ** Don’t pass unless absolutely certain that the way is clear. NEVER pass in a fog-bound traffic convoy.**
- ** Turn on your windshield wipers and keep the de-fogger blowing. Also roll down your window a bit to help prevent interior fogging. Heavy fog, especially at lower elevations, can sometimes be strong enough to act like rain and put a film of water on your windshield.**
- ** If traffic should stop suddenly, turn on your emergency flashing unit, move as far as possible to the edge of the road and stop your car. If visibility is limited to only a few feet, get off the road as soon as practical and wait for conditions to improve.**

**SUMMING UP, THE EUROPEAN “FOG CODE” IS:
“SLOW DOWN, KEEP YOUR DISTANCE AND USE YOUR LIGHTS”!**